



**Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board
Approved
Minutes
March 6, 2024
Council Chambers
6:30 PM**



I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Andrew Smith called the March 6, 2024, meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Staff also in attendance: Jay Conn, Director, Debbie Zaravelis, Admin Assistant.

Present: 4 - Board Member Jeremy Good, Chair Andrew Smith, Vice-Chair Michael Thomas, Board Member Doris Houck

Absent: 1 - Board Member Nathaniel Stember

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 3, 2024

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

RESULT: Approve

MOVER: Board Member Doris Houck

SECONDER: Vice-Chair Michael Thomas

AYES: Jeremy Good, Andrew Smith, Michael Thomas, Doris Houck

NAYS: None

IV. PUBLIC PERIOD

Chair Andrew Smith opened the Public Period. There being no one who wished to speak, Chair Andrew Smith closed the Public Period.

V. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION: FY25 PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Jay Conn told the board that the budget review process is just starting for the next fiscal year 2025, which starts October 1, 2024.

The initial step involves identifying potential large construction or renovation projects and the recommendations will be forwarded to the City Council for their discretion and information to be put into the FY25 budget. Jay Conn said, in general, the Capital Plan is primarily based on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

As mentioned in the previous meeting, the Parks and Recreation community mail survey has been returned with a good response rate and the results will be presented to the City Council at the March 25th meeting. As requested, the link will be sent to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The results of the data are remarkably similar to the last survey done in 2015, especially considering one of the factors being in 2015, we only had 5% renters and in 2023, 30% were renters. The biggest things that were very similar were pathways and trails and the general upkeep of the park system as well as lake access. Pickleball was in the middle of priorities and splash pads were low on the list. The survey grasps what is important and what is needed in the community. It seems people are happy with what we have.

Chair Andrew Smith asked if members should plan to attend the City Council meeting. He would like to be there. Jay Conn said members can attend the meeting if they like, or they can watch it online.

Fund 65 is the Parks Trust Fund, and as of today, there is \$61,000. This money comes from impact fees, paid by developers of new properties. Those fees cannot be used for maintenance, they have to go towards new items. The General Fund comes from tax revenues and money used for city projects must be prioritized among all the other city departments. Jay Conn gave a run through of the next 5 year potential improvements that are recommendations to be sent to City Council.

Jeremy Good asked if the land adjacent to Sybelia Beach is owned by the Art Center. Jay Conn answered that the city owns the Art Center, there are potential plans for Art Center expansion in the future.

Andrew Smith asked if the Art Center has a separate board and, if so, who manages it. Jay Conn answered that they have a separate board and an executive director, along with a paid employee under the executive director, the executive director is hired by the city to manage the facility.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS THE COMMISSION DEEMS ADVISABLE

Jay Conn wanted to remind the board members about the Volunteer Appreciation Event, March 28th from 5:30-7:30 pm and asked if anyone had not sent an RSVP, to please do so.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.